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Listing of Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the subject application:

1. (currently amended) A facsimile apparatus coupled to a telephone line network and a local area network, comprising:

a facsimile communications mechanism configured to perform a facsimile communications operation;

a first storing mechanism configured to store image data and to be inaccessible through the local area network;

a second storing mechanism configured to store image data and to be accessible through the local area network;

a backup arranging mechanism configured to store received document image data into the first storing mechanism and a copy of the received document image data into the second storing mechanism;

a determining mechanism configured to determine whether the received document image data is confidential; and

a controlling mechanism configured to cause the backup arranging mechanism to cancel storing the copy of the received document image data into the second storing mechanism when the received document image data is determined as confidential by the determining mechanism.

2. (currently amended) A facsimile apparatus coupled to a telephone line network and a local area network, comprising:

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a facsimile communications mechanism configured to perform a facsimile communications operation;

a first storing mechanism configured to store <u>image</u> data and to be inaccessible through the local area network;

a second storing mechanism configured to store <u>image</u> data and to be accessible through the local area network;

a backup arranging mechanism configured to store received document <u>image</u> data into the first storing mechanism and a copy of the received document <u>image</u> data into the second storing mechanism;

a determining mechanism configured to determine whether the received document <u>image</u> data stored in the second storing mechanism is confidential upon a receipt of a data transmission request for transmitting the received document <u>image</u> data stored in the second storing mechanism from an external terminal through the local area network; and

a controlling mechanism configured to refuse the data transmission request from the external terminal through the local area network when the received document <u>image</u> data is determined as confidential by the determining mechanism.

3. (currently amended) A facsimile apparatus coupled to a telephone line network and a local area network, comprising:

a facsimile communications mechanism configured to perform a facsimile communications operation;

a web server mechanism configured to allow a web browser to show received document data:

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a first storing mechanism configured to store image data and to be inaccessible through the local area network;

a second storing mechanism configured to store image data and to be accessible through the local area network;

a backup arranging mechanism configured to store received document image data into the first storing mechanism and a copy of the received document image data into the second storing mechanism;

a determining mechanism configured to determine whether the received document image data stored in the second storing mechanism is confidential upon a receipt of a data transmission request for transmitting the received document image data stored in the second storing mechanism from a web browser through the local area network; and

a controlling mechanism configured to refuse the data transmission request from the web browser through the local area network when the received document image data is determined as confidential by the determining mechanism.

4. (currently amended) A facsimile apparatus coupled to a telephone line network and a local area network, comprising:

communicating means for performing a facsimile communications operation;

first storing means inaccessible through the local area network for storing image data;

second storing means accessible through the local area network for storing image data;

backup arranging means for storing received document image data into the first storing means and a copy of the received document image data into the second storing means;

determining means for determining whether the received document image data is

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confidential; and

      controlling means for causing the backup arranging means to cancel storing the copy of the received document _image_ data into the second storing means when the received document _image_ data is determined as confidential by the determining means.

      5. (currently amended) A facsimile apparatus coupled to a telephone line network and a local area network, comprising:

      communicating means for performing a facsimile communications operation;

      first storing means inaccessible through the local area network for storing _image_ data;

      second storing means accessible through the local area network for storing _image_ data;

      backup arranging means for storing received document _image_ data into the first storing means and a copy of the received document _image_ data into the second storing means;

      determining means for determining whether the received document _image_ data stored in the second storing means is confidential upon a receipt of a data transmission request for transmitting the received document _image_ data stored in the second storing means from an external terminal through the local area network; and

      controlling means for refusing the data transmission request from the external terminal through the local area network when the received document _image_ data is determined as confidential by the determining means.

      6. (currently amended) A facsimile apparatus coupled to a telephone line network and a local area network, comprising:

      communicating means for performing a facsimile communications operation;

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web server means for allowing a web browser to show received document data;

first storing means inaccessible through the local area network for storing image data;

second storing means accessible through the local area network for storing image data;

backup arranging means for storing received document image data into the first storing

means and a copy of the received document image data into the second storing means;

determining means for determining whether the received document image data stored in

the second storing means is confidential upon a receipt of a data transmission request for

transmitting the received document image data stored in the second storing means from a web

browser through the local area network; and

controlling means for refusing the data transmission request from the web browser

through the local area network when the received document image data is determined as

confidential by the determining means.

7. (currently amended) A communications method for a facsimile apparatus coupled to a

telephone line network and a local area network, comprising the steps of:

performing a facsimile communications operation;

determining whether the received document data is confidential;

storing received document image data into a first memory inaccessible through the local

area network, and

copying the received document image data into a second memory accessible through the

local area network when the received document data is determined as not confidential by the

determining step,

wherein the copying step is cancelled when the received document data is determined as

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confidential by the determining step.

8. (currently amended) A communications method for a facsimile apparatus coupled to a

telephone line network and a local area network, comprising the steps of:

performing a facsimile communications operation;

storing received document image data into a first memory inaccessible through the local

area network;

copying the received document image data into a second memory accessible through the

local area network;

determining whether the received document image data stored in the second memory is

confidential upon a receipt of a data transmission request for transmitting the received document

image data stored in the second memory from an external terminal through the local area

network; and

refusing the data transmission request from the external terminal through the local area

network when the received document image data is determined as confidential by the

determining step.

9. (currently amended) A communications method for a facsimile apparatus coupled to a

telephone line network and a local area network, comprising the steps of:

performing a facsimile communications operation;

storing received document image data into a first memory inaccessible through the local

area network:

copying the received document image data into a second memory accessible through the

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local area network:

determining whether the received document image data stored in the second memory is

confidential upon a receipt of a data transmission request for transmitting the received document

image data stored in the second memory from a web browser through the local area network; and

refusing the data transmission request from the web browser through the local area

network when the received document image data is determined as confidential by the

determining step.

10. (currently amended) A computer readable data recording medium storing a program

which causes a computer to execute operations according to a communications method for a

facsimile apparatus coupled to a telephone line network and a local area network, comprising the

steps of:

performing a facsimile communications operation;

storing received document image data into a first memory inaccessible through the local

area network;

copying the received document image data into a second memory accessible through the

local area network;

determining whether the received document image data stored in the second memory is

confidential upon a receipt of a data transmission request for transmitting the received document

image data stored in the second memory from a web browser through the local area network; and

refusing the data transmission request from the web browser through the local area

network when the received document image data is determined as confidential by the

determining step.

11. (previously presented) A machine readable medium embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform the method claimed in claim 7.

12. (original) A computer system, comprising:

a processor; and

a program storage device readable by the computer system, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the processor to perform the method claimed in claim 7.

Claim 13 (canceled).

14. (previously presented) A machine readable medium embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform the method claimed in claim 8.

15. (original) A computer system, comprising:

a processor; and

a program storage device readable by the computer system, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the processor to perform the method claimed in claim 8.

Claim 16 (canceled).

17. (previously presented) A machine readable medium embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform the method claimed in claim 9.

18. (original) A computer system, comprising:

a processor; and

a program storage device readable by the computer system, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the processor to perform the method claimed in claim 9.

Claim 19 (canceled).

20.   (previously presented) The facsimile apparatus of claim 1, wherein said backup mechanism checks contents of the first and second storing mechanisms, and if one of the first and second storing mechanisms includes non-confidential contents that are not in the other of the first and second storing mechanisms, said backup mechanism duplicates the non-confidential contents of the one of the first and second storing mechanisms to the other of the first and second storing mechanisms.